



Stimulus Money Headed to Siouxland

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President Obama signed the economic stimulus bill on Tuesday. But what does it mean for our hometowns? Some local governments believe it's just a matter of time before stimulus money filters into Siouxland while others think it's a matter of if not when. Instead of Santa it's President Obama granting wishes off his economic stimulus wish list.

"We have a real strong possibility to get some additional revenue that wasn't going to be there to help us out as a community," says Sioux City City Manager Paul Eckert.

On the wish lists of local governments? Road improvements, water and sewer system upgrades.

"Not only do they meet need but they also employ people and ensure that businesses can grow," says Eckert.

South Sioux City, Nebraska wants a piece of the \$1.2 billion going to Nebraska to build a new fire station and make improvements to Dakota Avenue.

"You'll be finding out yet this week in terms of funds that are allocated for instance for street projects," says Lance Hedquist, City Administrator of South Sioux City.

While South Sioux City seems confident the funds are there North Sioux City isn't so sure they'll receive stimulus funds.

"Just I guess being cautiously optimistic is the approach we're taking," says Kory Menken, with Economic Development in North Sioux City, South Dakota.

Operating with a \$5 million shortfall, the stimulus money must first go through the South Dakota state level before it trickles down to city governments.

"We've put together our wish list and it provided some projects to the South Dakota Department of Transportation so that if funding does come through then we'll be considered for some of those funds," says Menken.

Begging the 787 billion dollar question: Will stimulus money actually end up in Siouxland?

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